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March 6, 2002

TO: Examiner Jeffrey Fredman
Group 1637
(703) 308-6568

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GROUP 1600

FROM Justin D. Karjala
Celera Genomics Corp.
(240) 453-3812

FAX NO: (703) 305-3014

OF PAGES (incl. cover): 8

Re: U.S. Serial No. 09/805,455, filed March 14, 2001
Entitled "ISOLATED HUMAN RAS-LIKE PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACID
MOLECULES ENCODING THESE HUMAN RAS-LIKE PROTEINS, AND
USES THEREOF"

A Preliminary Amendment (Restriction Election) and a Statement Regarding Duty of
Disclosure in the above-identified application follows. No fee is due for this filing.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: GAN et al.

Art Unit: 1637

Serial No. 09/805,455

Examiner: J. Fredman

Filed: March 14, 2001

Atty. Docket: CL001165

For: ISOLATED HUMAN RAS-LIKE
PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES
ENCODING THESE HUMAN RAS-LIKE
PROTEINS, AND USES THEREOF

**Statement Regarding Duty Of Disclose Information Material To Patentability
Under 37 CFR 1.56 (a) and (b)**

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

By Facsimile

Sir:

This statement is to inform the United States of Patent and Trademark Office that Applicants and their representative have made a good faith effort in searching prior art relating to this invention.

No prior art material to patentability of the present invention has been found. The closest information associated with the invention is disclosed in Figures 1 and 2 in the top BLAST search results. However, this information, by itself or in combination with other information, does not constitute a prima facie case of unpatentability of any of the pending claims. Thus, it does not defeat the novelty of the present invention and the actual underlying references for the top BLAST hits are not being provided.

Respectfully submitted,

CELERA GENOMICS

By: 

Justin D. Karjala, Reg No. 43,704

Date: March 6, 2002

Celera Genomics Corporation
45 West Gude Drive, C2-4#20
Rockville, MD 20850
Tel: 240-453-3812
Fax: 240-453-3084

#6/Pre-A
3/7/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: GAN et al.

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Art Unit: 1637

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Serial No.: 09/805,455

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For: ISOLATED HUMAN RAS-LIKE
PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES
ENCODING THESE HUMAN RAS-LIKE
PROTEINS, AND USES THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

By Facsimile

Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action mailed on February 6, 2002 in which a restriction requirement was issued for the above referenced application.

By way of response, Applicants hereby elect claim group III, claims 4-6, 8-9, and 22-23, directed to nucleic acid molecules, vectors, host cells, etc., for examination and have canceled claims corresponding to the non-elected groups I-II, IV-VI, and VIII-X.

However, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the claim division and include claim 13 in the elected group. Specifically, the point of novelty of claim 13 is the nucleic acid molecules of the claim from which it depends, claim 5. The dependent claim 13 provides a specific use (method of detecting a nucleic acid of claim 5) of the subject matter and it is believed that examination of this claim would not unduly burden the Examiner with additional review issues.